



Wendelin "Wendy" McGurgan

May 19, 1954 - August 12, 2024

Wendelin "Wendy" (Abrahamson) McGurgan, 70, of Kensington, wife of Hugh J. McGurgan, passed away Monday (August 12, 2024) at Hartford Hospital. Born in New Britain, daughter of the late Leonard and Vera (Johnson) Abrahamson, she lived in Kensington most of her life. Wendy was a graduate of Berlin High School, class of 1972, and Simmons College in Boston in 1976. She was a member of Kensington Congregational Church and a former member of the CT Humane Society.

Wendy worked in Production Control and quoting at Colt Firearms and Cambridge Specialty from 1980 to 1993 when she began courses at Connecticut Canine to become a Licensed Professional dog trainer. She ran the Town of Berlin dog Obedience Training Program for 30 years until her retirement in 2023. During this time she also worked part time at A.S. Labieniec Feed and Grain in Kensington. She was especially fond of German Shepherd dogs and they were always the lead dogs in her public and private training sessions.

Wendy was enthusiastic and energetic in all her life activities. She enjoyed spending time with friends, family, and her work dogs. She loved doing her daily crossword puzzles and winning Scrabble games. She enjoyed many late winter vacations to the Caribbean, especially St. Croix, collecting sea shells, jewelry, and local artwork for display at home.

Besides her husband Hugh, she leaves a brother, Christian Abrahamson of Kensington; two sisters, Gretchen and her husband Brian McCulloch of

Duncan, BC, Canada, and Gretchen's sons Colin and Ian Moyer and their spouses and children; Susan and her husband Ted Wojcik of Fremont, NH and their son Cody of Salem NH; many cousins including Peter Lewis, Robert Lewis, Betsy (Lewis) Keller of West Hartford, Eric Abrahamson of Kensington and their spouses and children.

She also leaves her niece Jill, husband Eric, and children Maddie, Charlotte, Avery, and Parker Young of Bethel; her nephew Colin Abrahamson, his wife Emily and their children Violet and Piper of Kensington; Hugh's brothers Peter McGurgan, his wife Christine, their children Erin, Jennifer, and Sean of Southington; Robert McGurgan and his wife Elena of West Hartford; Andrew McGurgan, his wife Susan, their sons Robert, Kevin, and Patrick of Cincinnati, Ohio; Dennis McGurgan and Andrea of Southington; and Hugh's sister Mary, husband Ron and sons Eric and Adam Muhlenhaupt of Philadelphia.

A Memorial Service for Wendy will be held on Saturday October 12, 2024, 11:00 AM at Kensington Congregational Church, 312 Percival Avenue Kensington. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the CT Humane Society, 701 Russell Road Newington, CT 06111. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain, is assisting with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **12**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kensington Congregational Church
312 Percival Avenue
Kensington, CT 06037

Tribute Wall

AY

“ Tina & I trained five golden puppies with her & cherished our time sharing canine experiences even after her retirement. We do miss her, but have fond memories of her. Tony

Anthony Yablonski - October 05, 2024 at 01:20 PM

AJ

“ Wendy & I were neighbors & we grew up together in Kensington. My memories go back to us as children playing magic horses, Girl Scout camp, ballet lessons, playing Secret Agent man, trying to figure out how we could buy a horse and so many more. Wendy helped my step daughter with her German Shepard. As she would say, no bad dogs, just bad owners.
Amy Jakowski

Amy Jakowski - October 01, 2024 at 12:20 PM

EM

“ Bob and I always brought our precious puppies to Wendy for training, as did our daughters ElenaLee, Verneen and Romely. Wendy was a gifted trainer and enjoyed teaching all her students. Blessed in life to work in a job she loved, it will be impossible to find another gifted trainer like Wendy. As Wendy said, a trained dog is a happy dog.
Elena McGurgan

Elena McGurgan - September 18, 2024 at 09:22 AM

KF

“ Wendy was a couple years ahead of me at BHS. Seems we had a mutual friend, Beth. Last few years she's come to get her adjustments at the office where I work. Always great to see her, a connection from the past. She would talk about the dogs and training. Even bring her shepard by to say hi. I'm shocked by this news. My sympathy to her family. A sweet funny person who will be missed.

Kathy Frederick - September 08, 2024 at 11:56 AM

DA

“ I'm Wendy's cousin, Dan Willis. I live in Spring Branch, TX. I remember listening to records in her basement when we were teenagers. I've always associated Norwegian Woods, by the Beatles, with her. She was a sweet, happy soul.

Dan - September 07, 2024 at 07:13 PM

SC

“ I am Wendy's cousin, Sandy Carr, now living in Washington State. Wendy was 2 years younger than me. My fondest and last memory of our times together (in PA when her family was visiting mine) was when she came with me to the stable I was volunteering at, taking out trail rides, and we sat for hours staying warm in the office, talking horses. I don't remember ever getting to take her riding with me, probably it was too cold for anyone to come by that day. I had an extra pair of boots though and she wore them just in case, even though I think they might have been a tiny bit too small. Yes, she was bubbly and an animal lover to the core. My condolences to all of her family, 2 and 4-legged. Vaya con Dios sweet Wendy.

Sandy Carr - September 07, 2024 at 06:24 PM

JL

“ I remember Wendy as a cute, giggling, vivacious elementary school sweetheart at Percival school in Kensington. She was my first “love” in 1st grade. How could anyone resist a pink tutu? She will be missed. And may her memory be a blessing.

Jim Lukens - September 07, 2024 at 03:13 PM

DA

“ I met Wendy about 20 yrs ago when I signed up for class with my dal Casper. During these classes my son Shayne asked her if he could get community hours for high school by helping in the classes. She agreed and the friendship blossomed from there. I too assisted in many classes. We had such a great time whenever we were together and I will cherish those memories. My sincere condolences to Hugh, and the families of Wendy and Hugh. God bless you Wendy and may you rest in peace my friend. I will miss you. ❤️
Debby Anderson

Debby Anderson - September 07, 2024 at 12:33 PM

BA

“ So many fond memories from public school in Berlin, especially senior year and our early undergrad years in Boston. May your loving pets having left you serve as guides on your journey home.
Peace. - Bruce

Bruce C Angeli - September 07, 2024 at 11:18 AM